

26 February, 1978

Mr. Earl C. Bolton  
Booz, Allen and Hamilton, Inc.  
523 West Sixth Street,  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90014

STAT

Dear Earl,

Many thanks for your letter of February 22nd with its interesting enclosures.

I too never cease to be puzzled and amazed by the implication so frequently employed by the press that there is something somehow pernicious in what would otherwise seem to be perfectly reasonable and desirable relationships between the higher educational institutions of our country and the organs of government whose mission it is to provide the best and most comprehensive information available on what our friends can do to help us, our enemies to hurt us, so as to develop the soundest possible basis for determination and execution of national policy.

Consequently, I am at a loss to perceive why such stories as the one now being pursued by the Los Angeles Times, NBC, and the Washington Post can be construed as other than creditable. Yet, as you say, the opposite impression seems to have been the objective of the authors - a point which I attempted to convey to Mr. Altmyer of NBC.

At the time that I called you about this matter I also called the office of the General Counsel of the C.I.A. because I had been advised by the Department of Justice that I may incur civil liability through making public statements regarding C.I.A. matters. My attorney in <sup>2</sup>the civil case now pending in the District of Columbia have been similarly cautioned.

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On Friday the 24th, the day before I received your letter of February 22nd, I was advised by the Office of the General Counsel that they are having all of the papers under the "Freedom of Information Act" in this case involving you and me sent to me forthwith. If there should be included therein anything which has not been made available to you in the packet given to you by Mr. Altmyer, I will have it xeroxed and sent to you.

I was also advised by the C.I.A. to refer any further inquiries on this case to the Office of Public Relations of the C.I.A., rather than to try to handle them myself.

It might be well advised on your part also to do the same thing. <sup>(if you executed a "No disclosure agreement")</sup>

I too am at a loss to explain how the "Freedom of Information Act" works and what criteria is used to determine the markings and deletions applied to the released material by the C.I.A.

I will let you know as soon as I can if anything new develops in this case.

As you know, my health is deteriorating at an even increasing rate and sometimes I don't pursue matters with as much vigor as I might. However, I will do my best to try to prevent this rather meritorious molehill into becoming a pernicious mountain.

Again many thanks for your informative letter and, as in the past, Karin and I join in sending our warmest personal regards to you and Jean.

Sincerely,

Rufus L. Taylor  
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy (ret).

cc: Office of Public Relations  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505